

**CONVENTION ON
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**AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND
CLIMATE CHANGE**

First meeting
Helsinki, 21-25 January 2002

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**INTRODUCTION****A. Background**

1. At its fifth meeting, the Conference of the Parties made reference to the interactions between climate change and the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in a number of thematic and cross-cutting areas, including coral bleaching (decision V/3, paras. 3, 5 and annex), forest biodiversity (decision V/4, paras. 11 and 16-20), and incentive measures (decision V/15, para. 6), and urged strengthened cooperation with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on these matters and in the thematic area of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands (decision V/21, para. 3). In addition, it requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) to consider the impact of climatic change on forest biological diversity (decision V/4, para. 11) and to prepare scientific advice in order to integrate biodiversity considerations, including biodiversity conservation, into the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol (para. 18). In both cases, the Conference of Parties called for this work to be carried out in collaboration with the appropriate bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), where appropriate and feasible.

2. Following a decision of its Bureau, SBSTTA considered all matters related to climate change together at its sixth meeting in March 2001. To assist the Subsidiary Body in considering these matters, the Executive Secretary prepared a note on biological diversity and climate change, including cooperation with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/6/11). This document provided a progress report on implementation of decisions V/3, V/4, V/15 and V/21 of the Conference of the Parties as they relate to climate change. Since those decisions were adopted, the President of the Conference of the Parties has transmitted them to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; the Executive Secretary has consulted with the

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secretariat of that Convention and with the Chair of the IPCC with a view to promoting the implementation of the decisions; and the Executive Secretary prepared a discussion note on cooperation between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change for the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Climate Change and the fourteenth session of its Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA). SBSTA considered the matter at its fourteenth session, in July 2001.

3. The note also identified matters of potential relevance to the preparation of scientific advice for the integration of biodiversity considerations into the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol, on the basis of the relevant provisions of these instruments. These matters relate to:

- (a) The impact of climate change on biodiversity in the context of sustainable development;
- (b) The role of biodiversity in the mitigation of climate change and the impacts of mitigation measures on biodiversity; and
- (c) The role of biodiversity in measures to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change and the identification of fragile ecosystems.

4. At its sixth meeting, in March 2001, SBSTTA emphasized in its recommendation VI/7 that:

- (a) Prompt action was urgently needed to address climate change as a major cause of loss of biological diversity and its associated socio-economic consequences;
- (b) Measures that may be taken to mitigate or adapt to climate change may also have important effects, positive or negative, on biological diversity; and
- (c) Overall emissions reduction is the main and most important measure to address climate change.

5. In the same decision, the Subsidiary Body also stressed:

- (a) The need for adaptation measures to ensure the long-term integrity of ecosystems, species and ecological processes under conditions of climate change; and
- (b) The impact of biodiversity loss on climate change and the contribution that the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, through, *inter alia*, avoided deforestation, could make to adapt to or mitigate climate change.

B. The mandate of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biological Diversity and Climate Change

6. In paragraph 4 of the same recommendation, the Subsidiary Body decided to promote on the basis of the ecosystem approach a wider assessment of the interlinkages between biodiversity and climate change, in order to develop comprehensive scientific advice to integrate biodiversity considerations into the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol. As a first step in the wider assessment, SBSTTA decided to initiate a pilot assessment and, for this purpose, established an ad hoc technical expert group with the following mandate, to be carried out on the basis of the ecosystem approach:

(a) Analyse possible adverse effects on biological diversity of measures that might be taken or are being considered under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol;

(b) Identify factors that influence biodiversity's capacity to mitigate climate change and contribute to adaptation and the likely effects of climate change on that capacity;

(c) Identify options for future work on climate change that also contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

7. Drawing upon relevant documents prepared under the Convention on Biological Diversity (including decisions V/3, V/4, and V/6, and the note by the Executive Secretary prepared for the sixth meeting of SBSTTA (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/6/11)) and the IPCC (including the third assessment review and the *Special Report on Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry*), as well as other available literature, the Expert Group has been requested to develop recommendations based upon a review of possible approaches and tools, such as criteria and indicators, to facilitate application of scientific advice for the integration of biodiversity considerations into the implementation of measures that might be taken under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol to mitigate or adapt to climate change.

8. The Expert Group has also been requested to identify areas where further work is needed to improve scientific advice for the integration of biodiversity considerations into the implementation measures to mitigate or adapt to climate change, including:

(a) Further assessment, drawing upon existing knowledge; and

(b) Further research; and identify options for participation of the IPCC and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in this further work.

9. At its seventh meeting, in November 2001, SBSTTA, in its recommendation VII/6, invited the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group to consider the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Forest Biological Diversity (and the note by the Executive Secretary on consideration of specific threats to forest biological diversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/7)), as well as the outcome of the seventh meeting of SBSTTA with respect to forest biological diversity, including the proposed elements for an expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity. The Conference of the Parties will consider these elements at its sixth meeting in April 2002.

10. Objective 3 of goal 2 of programme element 1 on "Conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing" in the annex to recommendation VII/6, which addresses mitigation of the negative impacts of climate change on forest biodiversity, includes the following planned activities that the group may wish to consider proactively before they are considered by the Conference of the Parties:

(a) Promote monitoring and research on the impacts of climate change on forest biological diversity and investigate the interface between forest components and the atmosphere;

(b) Develop coordinated response strategies and action plans at global, regional and national levels;

(c) Promote the maintenance and restoration of biodiversity in forests in order to enhance their capacity to resist to, and recover from and adapt to climate change;

(d) Promote forest biodiversity conservation and restoration in climate change mitigation and adaptation measures; and

(e) Assess how the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity can contribute to the international work relating to climate change.

11. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biological Diversity and Climate Change is expected to meet twice. Its first meeting will be held from 21 to 25 January 2002 at the Finnish Environment Institute, Helsinki, Finland.

12. A list of documents for the meeting is attached as annex II below.

13. Registration of participants will commence at 9 a.m. on 21 January.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

14. A representative of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity will open the meeting at 10 a.m. on Monday, 21 January 2002.

1.1. Welcome address by a representative of the host country

15. The participants will be welcomed to the meeting by a representative of the Government of Finland.

16. The Expert Group members and observers will be invited to introduce themselves.

1.2 Opening address by a representative of the Executive Secretary

17. The representative of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity will recall the mandate of the Group from SBSTTA recommendation VI/7, and review the goals, objectives and expected outputs of the group's work.

1.3 Background presentations by the Secretariat and a member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for the technical paper on interlinkages between biological diversity and climate change

18. The Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) or his representative will introduce for the technical paper on inter-linkages between biological diversity and climate change.

19. A representative of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will introduce a note by the Executive Secretary entitled "A review of the impact of climate change on forest biological diversity" (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-BDCC/1/2), which has been prepared for the meeting.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1. Election of the Chair and the Rapporteur

20. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biological Diversity and Climate Change will choose from among its members a Chairperson and a Rapporteur for the meeting.

2.2. Adoption of the agenda and organisation of work

21. The provisional agenda prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-BDCC/1/1), which was submitted to SBSTTA at its seventh meeting as annex II to the progress report by the Executive Secretary on the status and work of the ad hoc technical expert groups

(UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/2), will be before the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group for consideration and adoption.

22. The Group will be invited to consider the provisional organization of work for the meeting annexed to the present annotated provisional agenda (see annex I below), having in mind that there will be two meetings. The first meeting could focus on the review of existing information and identification of gaps in information on the interlinkages between biological diversity and climate change. At its second meeting, the Group may wish to focus on developing recommendations to facilitate application of scientific advice for the integration of biodiversity considerations into the implementation of measures that might be taken under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol to mitigate or adapt to climate change.

ITEM 3. REVIEW OF EXISTING INFORMATION ON THE INTERLINKAGES BETWEEN BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

23. The Group will have before it the IPCC technical paper on climate change and biological diversity. After an introduction including a description of key terms (such as biodiversity, impacts, adaptation and mitigation), the importance of biodiversity in meeting human needs, and the pressures on biodiversity from human activities, the paper reviews successively:

- (a) Observed and projected changes in climate;
- (b) Observed changes in terrestrial and marine ecosystems associated with climate change;
- (c) Projected impacts of changes in mean climate and extreme climatic events on terrestrial (including aquatic) and marine ecosystems;
- (d) Mitigation options for climate change and their potential impacts on biodiversity;
- (e) Consequences of adaptation options on biodiversity;
- (f) Approaches, such as sustainable development, can be used to assess the impacts of adaptation and mitigation activities on biodiversity; and
- (g) Identified information and assessment gaps.

24. The Group will also have before it the above-mentioned review of the impact of climate change on forest biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-BDCC/1/2).

25. In reviewing the information contained in these documents, the Group may wish to focus on its terms of reference by: (i) assessing possible adverse effects on biological diversity of measures that might be taken or are being considered under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol; and (ii) identifying factors that influence biodiversity's capacity to mitigate climate change and contribute to adaptation and the likely effects of climate change on that capacity. This review will include the topics highlighted by SBSTTA at its seventh meeting (see para 10 above) as specific cases addressing forest biodiversity.

ITEM 4. REVIEW OF EXISTING APPROACHES AND TOOLS THAT WOULD FACILITATE APPLICATION OF SCIENTIFIC ADVICE FOR THE INTEGRATION OF BIODIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS INTO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MEASURES TO MITIGATE OR ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE

26. Under this item, the Group will review and identify gaps in information on possible approaches and tools such as criteria and indicators that would facilitate the application of scientific advice for the integration of biodiversity considerations into the implementation of measures that might be taken under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol to mitigate or adapt to climate change.

ITEM 5. SCOPING OF INTER-SESSIONAL WORK AND PREPARATION FOR THE SECOND MEETING

5.1. *Consideration of the scope of work required to address the gaps identified under agenda items 3 and 4*

27. The Expert Group will consider the scope of work required to address the gaps identified under agenda items 3 and 4 above.

5.2. *Consideration of modalities to undertake such work in the inter-sessional period and preparations for the second meeting of the Group*

28. Under this item, the Expert Group will consider the organization of its work and distribution of tasks before the second meeting, draft the agenda for its second meeting and decide on the date and venue of that meeting.

ITEM 6. OTHER MATTERS

29. Under this item, participants will be invited to raise other matters related to the subject matter of the meeting.

ITEM 7. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

7.1. *Consideration of a brief procedural report*

30. The Group will consider and adopt the report of its first meeting, on the basis of the draft report of the meeting and draft recommendations to be presented by the Rapporteur.

7.2. *Closure of the meeting*

31. The meeting is expected to be closed on Friday 25 January at 6 p.m.

Annex I

**PROVISIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF THE AD HOC
TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

<i>Date and time</i>	
<i>Monday</i> 21 January 2002 9 a.m. 10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Registration of participants <i>Agenda items:</i> 1. Opening of the meeting 2. Organizational matters 2.1 Election of the Chair and the Rapporteur 2.2 Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 3:</i> Review of existing information on the inter-linkages between biological diversity and climate change and identification of gaps
<i>Tuesday</i> 22 January 2002 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 3 (continued)</i>
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 3 (continued)</i>
<i>Wednesday</i> 23 January 2002 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 3 (continued):</i>
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 3 (continued)</i>
<i>Thursday</i> 24 January 2002 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 4:</i> Review of existing approaches and tools that would facilitate application of scientific advice for the integration of biodiversity considerations into the implementation of measures to mitigate or adapt to climate change
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 4 (continued)</i>
<i>Friday</i> 25 January 2002 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 5. Scoping of inter-sessional work and preparation for the second meeting 6. Other matters
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 7:</i> Adoption of the report and closure of the meeting

Annex II

**PROVISIONAL LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF THE AD HOC
TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND CLIMATE
CHANGE**

A. Working documents

UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-BDCC/1/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-BDCC/1/1/Add.1.	Annotations to the provisional agenda
IPCC	IPCC Technical Paper on Climate Change and Biodiversity . http://www.usgcrp.gov/ipcc/biotp_grev User Group Name: biotp_grev Password: agaragar
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-BDCC/1/2	Review of the impact of climate change on forest biological diversity

B. Information documents

UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-BDCC/1/INF/1	Information for participants
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C. Background documents

COP decision V/3	Progress report on the implementation of the programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (implementation of decision IV/5) http://www.biodiv.org/decisions/Default.asp?lg=0&m=cop-05&d=03
COP decision V/4	Progress report on the implementation of the programme of work for forest biological diversity http://www.biodiv.org/decisions/Default.asp?lg=0&m=cop-05&d=04
COP decision V/6	Ecosystem approach http://www.biodiv.org/decisions/Default.asp?lg=0&m=cop-05&d=06
SBSTTA recommendation VI/7	Biological diversity and climate change, including cooperation with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change http://www.biodiv.org/recommendations/Default.asp?lg=0&m=sbstta-06&r=07

SBSTTA recommendation VII/6

Forest biological diversity
<http://www.biodiv.org/recommendations/Default.asp?lg=0&m=sbstta-07&r=06>

UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/6/11

Biological diversity and climate change, including cooperation with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; Note by the Executive Secretary
<http://www.biodiv.org/doc/meetings/sbstta/sbstta-06/official/sbstta-06-11-en.doc>

UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/6/INF/13

Biological diversity and climate change, including cooperation with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change: brief overview of the impact of climate change on forest biological diversity
<http://www.biodiv.org/doc/meetings/sbstta/sbstta-06/information/sbstta-06-inf-13-en.doc>

UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/6

Report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on forest Biological Diversity
<http://www.biodiv.org/doc/meetings/sbstta/sbstta-07/official/sbstta-07-06-en.doc>

UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/7

Consideration of specific threats to forest biological diversity: (a) climate change, (b) human-induced uncontrolled forest fires, (c) impact of unsustainable harvesting of non-timber forest resources, including bushmeat and living botanical resources: note by the Executive Secretary
<http://www.biodiv.org/doc/meetings/sbstta/sbstta-07/official/sbstta-07-07-en.doc>

UNFCCC COP-7

The Marrakech Accords & The Marrakech Declaration, advance unedited version, section I K: Matters relating to land-use, land use change and forestry., p. 118-127.
http://www.unfccc.int/cop7/documents/accords_draft.pdf

IPCC SPECIAL REPORTS

Land Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry. 2000

Summary for Policymakers. IPCC, Geneva
<http://www.ipcc.ch/pub/srlulucf-e.pdf>

The Regional Impacts of Climate Change: An Assessment of Vulnerability. 1997

Summary for Policymakers. IPCC, Geneva.
[http://www.ipcc.ch/pub/regional\(E\).pdf](http://www.ipcc.ch/pub/regional(E).pdf)

Climate Change 2001: Impacts, Adaptation & Vulnerability (WG II)

Summary for Policymakers. IPCC, Geneva.
<http://www.ipcc.ch/pub/wg2SPMfinal.pdf>
Technical Summary.
<http://www.ipcc.ch/pub/wg2TARtechsum.pdf>

Climate Change 2001: Mitigation (WG III)

Summary for Policymakers. IPCC, Geneva.

<http://www.ipcc.ch/pub/wg3spm.pdf>

Technical Summary.

<http://www.ipcc.cp/pub/wg3TARtechsum.pfd>
